

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01499 201533Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 HA-05 INR-10 INRE-00 PA-02  
SSO-00 FDRE-00 IO-14 SP-02 OES-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01  
SS-15 NSCE-00 /067 W  
-----062003 201538Z /41

O 201455Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7177

UNCLAS BEIRUT 1499

USIAC

USIA FOR INA, IOP

EO 11652: NA  
SUBJ: BEIRUT PRESS ON REFUGEE PROBLEM

1. WHILE GOVERNMENT TRYING TO COPE WITH HORRENDOUS PROBLEMS OF REFUGEES FROM SOUTH LEBANON ALL MEDIA DEVOTE MORE ATTENTION TO "EXODUS FROM SOUTH." PAPERS FOCUS ON REFUGEE PROBLEM IN SPECIAL PHOTO SUPPLEMENTS AND REPORTAGES WHICH HIGHLIGHT "MISERY" OF REFUGEES AS WELL AS RELIEF EFFORTS OF GOL AND PRIVATE COMMITTEES.

2. MOST PAPERS REPORT THAT "REFUGEES REFUSED TENT CITIES AND RUSHED TO OCCUPY VACANT APARTMENTS, SCHOOLS AND MOSQUES. EVEN INTERIOR MINISTER HAS REJECTED IDEA OF EVICTING REFUGEES FROM APARTMENTS THEY OCCUPIED BY FORCE UNLESS ALTERNATIVE BOARDING FACILITIES ARE PROVIDED THEM."

3. QUICK SAMPLING OF HEADLINES ILLUSTRATES SERIOUSNESS AND DIMENSION OF REFUGEE PROBLEM: "MISERABLE SOUTH INVADES HEART OF BEIRUT", "ANY ROOM IN BEIRUT IS FAIR GAME FOR SQUATTERS", "WHOLE VILLAGE OF BENT JBEIL CAME TO MUSEITBA  
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(IN BEIRUT) WHERE EIGHTY FAMILIES OCCUPIED ELEVEN-STORY BUILDING". PRESS REPORTS ESTIMATE NUMBER OF REFUGEES ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND - ONE HUNDRED SIXTY THOUSAND, INCLUDING FIFTY THOUSAND PALESTINIANS. NEWSPAPER ACCOUNT ALSO CITE RISE IN FOOD PRICES AS "NEW TRAGEDY".  
MALIK

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, PRESS COMMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BEIRUT01499  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014